

Carmel, NY – Congressman John Hall, Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, issued the following statement commenting on proposed plans to develop portions of the Montrose VA facility:

“The FDR VA hospital in Montrose, NY has served veterans in the Hudson Valley of New York with distinction since the 1950s. I have consistently worked to keep the Montrose VA property for the sole purpose of providing care and services to veterans, and vehemently oppose any proposal to sell, lease, privatize or develop the land for any other purpose. Especially now, with a growing number of soldiers returning from combat with TBI and PTSD, Montrose should be recognized as a center of excellence for dealing with these and other afflictions.

Our veterans have served this country with distinction, honor and bravery, and they deserve the best possible care in return. The FDR campus serves veterans from throughout Westchester, Rockland, Putnam and Orange Counties who would otherwise find it extremely challenging to access a VA hospital for their care.

I have made my strong feelings known about keeping the Montrose hospital in service to veterans in several meetings with VA Secretary Eric Shinseki, I have testified to that effect in front of the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission, and I wish to state it again. Any use of the FDR hospital or its grounds for purposes other than care of veterans is simply unacceptable.”